Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02

SS-15 L-03 SCCT-01 SY-05 AID-05 /067 W

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R 091320Z APR 76 FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1857

CONFIDENTIAL CAIRO 4756

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ASEC, EAIR, BTIO, EG

SUBJECT: SECURITY ASSISTANCE FOR CAIRO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

1. AT AMBASSADOR'S REQUEST, EMBASSY SECURITY OFFICER, WITH APPROVAL OF GOE AIRPORT SECURITY AUTHORITIES, CONDUCTED A PRELIMI-NARY PHYSICAL SECURITY SURVEY OF CAIRO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT. RESULTS

OF HIS FINDINGS FACTUALLY PORTRAY A BUSY AIRPORT WITH ONLY SUPERFICIAL

PHYSICAL AND PROCEDURAL SECURITY. USE OF X-RAY, METAL DETECTION DEVICES, AND OTHER UP-TO-DATE SECURITY TECHNOLOGY IS NON-EXISTENT. CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION CAMERAS POSITIONED THROUGHOUT THE AIPORT TERMINAL ARE NOT OPERATIONAL. INSPECTION OF HAND CARRIED PARCELS AND BRIEFCASES NOT CONDUCTED UNTIL FINAL STAGE OF PASSENGER BOARDING PROCESS. OUT-GOING LUGGAGE IS RARELY INSPECTED AND ONLY 3 AIRLINES (TWA, SUDAN AIRWAYS AND EGYPT AIR) REQUIRE PASSENGER IDENTIFICATION OF LUGGAGE AT AIRCRAFT BEFORE IT IS PLACED ON BOARD. TRANSIT PASSENGERS NOT INSPECTED ON ARRIVAL. THERE IS NO CONTROL OR INSPECTION OF NON-PASSENGERS IN PUBLIC AREA OF DEPARTURE TERMINAL. POLICEMENT POSITIONED THROUGHOUT AIRPORT ARE UNPROFESSIONAL AND LAKADASICAL.

2. GOE MININT POLICE ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR AIRPORT SECURITY AND HAVE REQUESTED USG ASSISTANCE IN IMPROVING CAIRO AIRPORT SECURITY. WE AGREE THAT THIS IS WORTHWHILE PROGRAM WHERE WE CONFIDENTIAL

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COULD BE OF ASSISTANCE WITH PROFESSIONAL ADVICE, TRAINING AND

PURCHASE OF SECURITY DETECTION/COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT (COMMODITY IMPORTS). HOWEVER, WE ARE NOT CERTAIN WHETHER STATUTORY RESTRAINSTS MAY PROHIBIT SUCH ASSISTANCE. SINCE ENTIRE PURPOSE IS ANTI-TERRORIST, WE WOULD HOPE SOME WAY COULD BE FOUND TO PERMIT SUCH HELP. EGYPTIANS WOULD WELCOME IT.

3. FYI: ALL SECURITY OR POLICE FORCES IN EGYPT COME UNDER MINISTRY OF INTERIOR. THESE INCLUDE CUSTOMS, PASSPORT OFFICE, FIRE DEPARTMENTS, INTERNAL SECURITY AND STANDARD POLICE DEPARTMENTS THROUGHOUT EGYPT. END FYI.

4. IF USG ASSITANCE IS NOT RPT NOT LEGALLY PRECLUDED, FIRST STEP MIGHT BE FOR FAA TO SEND PROFESSIONAL AIRPORT SECURITY TEAM TO SURVEY AIRPORT AND, IN COOPERATION AID/EGYPT DEVELOP SPECIFIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

5. PLEASE ADVISE. EILTS

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